



*Keeping in  
touch with the  
heart of the  
faith community  
of  
Gaylord  
United  
Church  
of  
Christ*

*A Welcoming  
Congregation*

# Parish Paper

May 2011

Vol. 39, 5



## *Confirmation* *Affirmation of Baptism*

On Sunday, May 8, Cole Bruhn, Jason Meyer and Sam Thies will come before the church to affirm their baptism and read their faith statements. The Confirmation Service begins at 9:00 a.m. during our regular Worship Service which includes Communion.

Please join us for a reception hosted by the Deacons in the Fellowship Hall after the service.

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**Ushers:** Jeff and Deb Meyer  
Jason Meyer

**Greeters:** Eunice Gasow and Lorraine Mueller  
5-1, 5-8  
Gloria Sinell and Helen Van Brunt  
5-15, 5-22, 5-29

**Acolyte:** Dylan Pauly

**Fellowship Hour:**

May 1 .....open  
May 8 ..... Confirmation Sunday-Deacons  
May 15 ..... Board of Christian Education  
May 22 ..... Meyers and Paulys  
May 29 .....open



**Lectionary Readings for the Month of May**

**May 1, 2011: Second Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Ps 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31.

UCC Theme: Body Language.

**May 8, 2011: Festival of the Christian Home**

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23;  
Luke 24:13-35. UCC Theme: Breaking Bread.

**May 15, 2011: Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10.

UCC Theme: Powerful Witness.

**May 22, 2011: Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John  
14:1-14. UCC Theme: Enduring Witness.

**May 29, 2011: Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 17:22-31; Ps 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-  
21. UCC Theme: Witness of Love.

**The last day of Sunday School will be  
Sunday, May 15.**

We will have a special Teacher/Student Recognition  
during our 9:00 a.m. Worship Service.

All teachers and students should plan to attend.

**Remembered in prayer last month:** Jim Peterson;  
Mark Thoele and others serving in the military; those  
who have been ill or are home bound.

Our sympathy and prayers are with the family of  
Kenneth Bull who passed away on Saturday, April 16.  
A Memorial Service was held Saturday, April 30 at  
UCC.



**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**

***New Member Sunday***

A New Member Sunday is being planned for a Sunday  
this spring. If you are interested in formal membership  
with the Gaylord United Church of Christ, please  
contact Pastor Hank.

**Plan ahead!!**

**Combined June/July Newsletter**

Our Parish Paper will have a combined  
issue for June and July.

**Articles and information for those months  
will need to be in the church office by**

**Wednesday, May 18.**

*Thank You.*

Cindy Johnson, Church Secretary, will be on  
vacation from May 30 - June 5.

Time sensitive materials should be into the  
Church Office as soon as possible.

## *Sharing and Celebrating*

THANKS TO EVERYONE – faithful and joyful servants – who assisted in our Lenten, Holy Week and Easter Worship Services and events! Also to all who helped with the Head Start Easter Party.

“Earth Day” has come and gone. One of the simple “earth steward” challenges I hope Gaylord and the nation can achieve is to surpass a 50% recycling rate of recycled items (numbers 1, 2 and 5). It’s disheartening to hear that the commitment (and conscience?) level for this kind of simple environmental action is only 40% participation in Gaylord and Minnesota. How we deal with Climate Change and Pollution requires shared sacrifice.

“JURY DUTY” has discovered me. I’m trusting that it will not interfere with my work schedule too often and help keep me out of trouble, during May through August.

The month of May has a number of special days which we observe in both the secular and sacred realms – Mother’s Day (also Festival of the Christian Home) on May 13; Rural Life Sunday on May 20; Pentecost on May 27; and Memorial Day on May 28. OUR UCC “CHILDREN’S SUNDAY” is also celebrated in May as we support this vital part of our church ministries!

Pastor Hank plans to have office hours or be visiting during the week on Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Thursdays from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1- 4:30 p.m. and Friday afternoons as needed. If you need to reach him call the church office 237-2595 or New Ulm UCC at 507-354-4242 or his cell 507-217-9848.

## MAY PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Is it Spring yet? We just finished celebrating Easter and Christ's resurrection, a time for renewal and re-birth for Christians. We see signs of re-birth as the grass turns green, the buds begin to swell on the trees and we hear the chirping of birds as they build their nests and prepare to lay their eggs. Even though it seems like we've waited too long, we trust and believe we will soon enjoy the warmth of the sun which will bring new life to everything around us. It is the same with God's son – through Him we receive new and everlasting life. Spring is here and each day begins new and fresh, offering us another opportunity to be thankful and to share God's love through our thoughts and actions. Welcome Spring!!

Thanks to all who participated in any way with the Easter Sunday services and breakfast! The youth provided a meaningful and thought-provoking early service and served a delicious breakfast. The trumpet prelude and postlude added to both services. The choir anthem and piano duet were appreciated and enjoyed by all in attendance at the regular service, as well as the Easter message. Each week I am reminded how fortunate we are to have members, young and young at heart, willing to serve in so many ways. And I'm thankful for Pastor Hank's messages each week and his faithful service to our congregation.

At Council meetings, we continue to address the business of our church. The Seventh Street house has been shown to at least two prospective buyers during the past month. The Trustees have made a list of items to repair or refresh at the house and will soon schedule a work day to complete them.

We are considering a new church directory and plan to meet with a representative from Life Touch sometime soon. In order to move forward, we will need two or three people to coordinate the process. I will be contacting individuals to ask for help, but would be grateful for volunteers and hope you will call me before I call you.

The UCC Annual Conference will be held at the College of St. Benedict campus June 10-12. We are allowed two lay delegates as well as a youth delegate. It is an interesting and uplifting experience and well worth the time and travel. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact me or let one of the council members know. The deadline for early registration is May 6<sup>th</sup> and registration can be made online.

There are some new ear pieces for the hearing devices which may be more comfortable for those using them. They will only provide hearing assistance when the microphones are used, so it is important for anyone making announcements to use the hand held microphone. Otherwise your important information will not be heard by everyone.

Congratulations to our three confirmands who will present their faith statements on May 8<sup>th</sup>! Cole Bruhn, Jason Meyer and Sam Thies have participated in classes, projects and activities with their mentors, their parents and Pastor Campbell. Let's keep these young men in our prayers as they become members and full participants in our congregation. Thanks to all the parents and other adults who have nurtured and guided our youth on their faith journey. PLEASE NOTE: This is not the end, but the beginning of a new part of the journey for all of us. As newly confirmed members of the church, it is your responsibility to continue participating in church activities. And it is the responsibility of all of us to set a good example for our youth, to continue to pray with them and for them that their faith will keep growing and be an important part of their lives.

Giving thanks for each new day, rain or shine, and for our risen Lord and His promise of everlasting love and life, *Gail Estenson, Council Chair - 2011*



### - 2011 PILGRIM POINT CAMP -

#### Family & Youth opportunities still open!

#### I. "Weekend Intergenerational Camp"

Friday – Sunday, July 22 – 24, 2011

- ◆ Adults: \$50.00
  - ◆ UCC Children & Youth are FREE
- Limited Spaces - Contact Pastor Hank for Housing and Activity details

#### II. "Work Weekends" In May

May 13-15    May 20-22    May 27-29

**Sign up today!**

**The sheet is on the table in the Fellowship Hall**

## Update from the Mission Board

The Lenten offerings March 9 and March 16 amounted to \$240 which goes toward student scholarships. There was 45 lbs of food that was collected and delivered to the food shelf March 30, 2011.

The April From the Heart Offering for One Great Hour Of Sharing was \$294.00.

The May From the Heart Offering will be for Strengthen the Church on May 8, 2011.

**Strengthen the Church - Together we are growing the UCC's future by supporting the God is Stillspeaking Ministry and its extravagant welcome for all within the United Church of Christ.**

- Funding new church starts and invigorating existing congregations.
- Nurturing lay and pastoral leadership.
- Building youth and young adult ministries.



We will be putting Scholarship applications out on the table in the Fellowship Hall in May. Students are encouraged to complete the application and return them to the Mission Board by July 17. Scholarships will be awarded in August.



**The Trustee sponsored clean up/fix up day at the church owned 7<sup>th</sup> Street house (corner of Lincoln and 7th St.) will be**

**Saturday, May 21 beginning at 9:00 a.m.**

**Projects include: washing walls, repairing ceiling tile, painting and general cleaning.**

***Your help would be greatly appreciated!***



**Andrew Thies will be recognized during our Worship Service**

**on Sunday, June 5 at 9:00 a.m.**

**A reception in the Fellowship Hall will follow worship and will be hosted by the Deacons.**

**Our prayers and good wishes go with you.**

**Priscilla Circle** will not have a meeting in May but are working on plans for a Spring Outing on Wednesday, June 8. Watch next month's newsletter for more information.

All women of the church are invited to join us.

### **Women's Fellowship News**

Women's Fellowship will meet Monday, May 9 at noon to finalize plans for our Spring Tea.

Bring a bag lunch and join us.



### ***"Spring Tea"***

**Saturday, May 21 2:30 p.m.**

**at Gaylord UCC**

**Entertainment and door prizes.**

**Invite your friends and plan on attending.**

**Tickets available from**

**Women's Fellowship members.**



**"Faith in Action" is the theme our Minnesota Conference Annual Meeting that begins on Friday, June 10, 2011 at St. Benedict and concludes on Pentecost Sunday, June 12, as we begin anew to seek to live God's vision in a new season.**

If you are interested in attending the Annual Meeting contact Council Chair Gail Estenson. Registration materials are available on the table in the Fellowship Hall.



### **A Great Theme for Advent**

While Advent is a season of preparation and a season of waiting, it is *not* a time for Waiting for God or a time for waiting "for God to" do whatever it will take to bring freedom and justice, forgiveness and reconciliation, healing and hope, joy and love to all peoples. Advent is not about passive waiting. It is about our accountability to God and our recognition that God's call to discipleship in the name of the Lord is to embolden us to live the vision that we find each new day and each new season in the grace, the power, the compassion, the faithfulness and the promises of Almighty God.

I think that a great theme for Advent would be "Faith in Action", calling us to embody hope, peace, joy and love as we seek to live the essentials of God's vision of the kingdom whose time is yet to come, but coming nonetheless.

"Faith in Action," is the theme of our Minnesota Conference Annual Meeting that begins on Friday, June 10, 2011 at St. Benedict and concludes on Pentecost Sunday, June 12, as we begin anew to seek to live God's vision in a new season.

"Faith in Action" is a great theme for Advent, a great theme for our Conference Annual Meeting, a great theme for Pentecost - and a great theme for the living of all the seasons of our lives.

*- Rev. Dick Fylling, pastor of UCC Granite Falls & First UCC, Montevideo - Annual Meeting Planning Group*

### **We challenge all our United Church of Christ congregations to become Green Congregations.**

"We cannot take up and sustain this enormous task of global mobilization without a deep understanding of how our faith calls us to this challenge. It is not enough to change light bulbs', we must change our very hearts. We are called to look again at our sacred texts and scriptures, and see the truths that have been there all along; that our earth is our home, our responsibility, a sacred place."

*-Rev. Canon Sally Bingham, Love God Heal Earth.*

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**Green Congregation - Our church is submitting our application for "Green Church" designation for this year's MN Conference Annual Meeting. We also invite your suggestions for how Gaylord UCC has been "earth-wise" and how we might be in the future. Please let Darrel Mosel know of your ideas. Thank You.**

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### **Memorial Wish List**

The Memorial Committee has had a sign-up sheet out for suggestions on how to use Memorial Money. The Memorial Committee along with the Church Council will be reviewing and prioritizing the list.

Below are the items on the list:

Fix up court yard; new/improved sound system and console located in the back of church; large flat screen TV; projector and screen; new wooden chairs for the Fireside room; New Century hymnals; new lighting; build bell tower/combine with bell tower fund.

Ideas are still welcome and no idea should be considered to small or insignificant. This list will also be used as a reference for those wishing to make a Memorial Donation.

The United Church of Christ  
318 4th Street—P.O. Box 385  
Gaylord, MN 55334  
Return service requested



**United Church of Christ**  
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**507-237-2595 or 507-237-5846**

Office—[uccg@myclearwave.net](mailto:uccg@myclearwave.net)

Pastor—[hankcampbellucc@newulmtel.net](mailto:hankcampbellucc@newulmtel.net)

This newsletter is a monthly publication of the

Gaylord United Church of Christ

Sunday Worship—9:00 a.m.

Coffee-Fellowship Hour 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School—10:15 a.m. Sept.—May

Communion is the 1st Sunday of the month

Pastor - Rev. Hank Campbell

Council President - Gail Estenson

Church Secretary - Cindy Johnson

## May Birthdays

04 ..... Lori Turbett  
07 ..... Russ Messner  
08 ..... Dick Estenson  
08 ..... Sandra Pomplun  
10 ..... Kathleen Thies  
11 ..... Chip Wolverton  
12 ..... Paula Troidahl  
15 ..... Jaci Tourtellott  
28 ..... Denise Tourtellott  
30 ..... Kelsey Schultz